

# County of Santa Clara

## Public Health Department

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### **Passenger Jet Lands at San Jose Airport Carrying Patients With Symptoms of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)**

SAN JOSE, CA -- At 10:05 a.m., April 1, 2003 an American Airlines jet (Flight #128) carrying passengers from Asia landed at the San Jose International Airport. The flight originated in Tokyo. Five passengers were identified by flight personnel as possible suspect SARS cases. Two patients have been subsequently ruled out for SARS. The remaining three have been transported to Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose, California, where they are being further evaluated while in isolation. The remaining passengers were educated regarding symptoms, asked to take temperatures regularly and were instructed to report to their physicians if symptoms develop. **Persons infected with SARS are not considered to be infectious until symptoms develop.** Physicians with suspected SARS cases should notify the Health Department immediately.

A 1:30 p.m. press briefing will be held at the Health Department offices at 2220 Moorpark Avenue in San Jose.

Specific conditions that must be present to meet the case definition of SARS are:

- Fever ( $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ );  
AND one or more signs or symptoms of respiratory illness including:
- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or abnormal chest x-ray;  
AND one or more of the following:
- **History of travel to Hong Kong; Guangdong Province in the People's Republic of China; Hanoi, Vietnam; or Singapore within ten days of symptom onset; or**
- **Close contact with persons with respiratory illness having the above travel history. Close contact includes having cared for, having lived with, or having had direct contact with respiratory secretions and body fluids of a person with SARS.**

Anyone who has traveled recently to the regions identified and has the symptoms above should report to their physician. Physicians should report any suspected case of SARS to Disease Prevention & Control at 408-885-4214. Additional reporting information has been included in the clinical guidelines.

For more information about SARS and travel updates, please see the CDC's and World Health Organization's Web sites at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and [www.who.int](http://www.who.int).

